THE REHEARSAL Of Obſervator, &c.

1. *The Different* Virtues *of Thoſe who are* For *and* Againſt *the* Church, *in the* Elections.
2. *On which ſide the* Papiſts *are.*
3. *The* Agreement *of* Whiggs *and* Diſſenters. *Particularly on* Good-Friday *at* Ratcliff-Croſs *and* Abington.
4. *The Different* Appearance *at* Elections. *An Inſtance of that at* Honiton.
5. *Of Splitting* Free-Holds. *And the* Remedy.
6. *The Behavour of the* Quakers *in the* Elections.

From Saturday May the 26th, to Saturday June the 2d 1705.

(1.) *Country-man.* THE preſent *Elections* have fill'd both *Town* and *Country* with multitude of *Pamphlets* and *Papers* upon the *Occaſion.* Thoſe againſt the *Church* and the *Crown* have all *Agreed* to Carry on a General *Cry*, That the *Papiſts*, &c. are on the ſide of the *Church.* And this with *Mobb*, if Believ'd, will Determine the *Cauſe* at *Once*! Whatever ſide the *Papiſhes* are on muſt be *Naught*! The *Review* of the 19*th.* laſt *Month*, *Vol.* 2. N. 33. ſays, *On which ſide ſhall the* PAPISTS, *the* ATHEISTS, *the* DRUNKEN, SWEARING, *and moſt* VICIOUS *of the People Vote?*

If by all Mankind, and in every Place in ENGLAND, *it is not given againſt you, and Proved, that all theſe Generally are for the* HIGH-CHURCH-MEN, TACKERS, &c. *I'll for ever lay down this Cauſe, and have not one word more to ſay to it.*

Obſ. I ſay the ſame. And ſo we ſay All. And thou woud'ſt *Diſprove* it. Woud'ſt thou?

Country-m. I'll deſire no fairer *Iſſue.* Let the *Cauſe* then be *Determin'd* by this. And to begin our *Reckoning* give in your *Liſt* of any *Atheiſt*, *Deiſt*, *Socinian*, *Jew* or *Gentil* in *England*, that is not againſt the *Tackers*, and the *Bill* which they *Tacked.*

Then for the other *Claſs* of *Drunken*, *Swearing* &c. The *Kit-Kat* for that. Can you ſhew ſuch an other *Virtuous Club* among the *High Church?* So *Pretty Witty* and *Prophane*!

Who was it Built the *Temple* of *Venus* in *Hay-Market*? And who *Sung* the *Jo Pean* at the *Dedication*?

Who go into *Churches*, and Tear *Bibles* and *Common-Prayer-Books*; *Pollute* the *Altar* and *Pulpit*; and Sing *Lewd Songs* to the *People* Aſſembl'd for *Devotion*?

Are there any *High-Church-Men*, or any who *Vote* for *Tackers*, to be found among theſe ſort of *Virtuoſoes*?

(2.) *Obſ.* We can diſpence with all theſe! They hurt not our *Cauſe.* But thou haſt not ſaid a word of the *Papiſhes.* O theſe *Papiſhes*! They are all for your *High-Church*, and the *Tackers.*

Country-m. The Quite *Contrary* of which is the *Truth.* I told thee before, *Num.* 42. That the *Papiſts* in *Suffolk* made all the Intereſt they cou'd againſt the *Tackers.* They did the ſame in *Eſſex*, in *Lancaſhire*, notoriouſly; and I doubt not the like will be found in other *Places* all over the *Kingdom.* Can'ſt thou give any *Inſtance* to the *Contrary*?

Obſ. No. Not I. Why? Am I bound to *Hunt* up and down to find *Inſtances* for Thee? But *WE* ſay it! Is n't that Enough? Our *Party* can take our *Word*, like *Gentelmen*, without *Proof.*

(3.) But thou deals very *Jeſuitically*, in the Argument you bring as to *OUR Godlineſs*! Thou ſpeaks only of *Kit-Cat* and the *Whiggs*, who though at Preſent, *OUT* dear *Confederates*, and *Saints* (for *WE* muſt own none other!) yet no body takes them for *Extraordinary Chriſtians*! But what ſay'ſt thou as to our *Diſſenters*? There's Men of ſtrict *Life*, *Probity*, and every thing! And it was of *Theſe REVIEW* meant to make the *Compariſon*, with your *High-Church-Men*, in what thou haſt *Quoted* above.

Country-m. The *Compariſon* he, and the reſt of *YOU* make, upon this Point of *Elections*, is only as to the *Voters.* And therein *YOU* have the whole *Body* of *Whiggs*, *Atheiſts*, *Kit-Cat* and All! They'r all on the ſide of the *Diſſenters.* And the *Papiſts* too, as I have ſhew'd.

But when you'r all together, and doing the *Same* thing, who can *Diſtingwiſh* you? Which were the *Whiggs*, and which the *Diſſenters*, at the *Ship-Tavern* at *Ratcliff-Croſs*, laſt *Good-Fryday*? of which I told thee before N. 38.

Which were the *Whiggs*, and which the *Diſſenters*, the ſame *Good-Friday* at *Abington*, when you were all Beaſtly *Drunk*, about Concerting your *Election* there? And in *Defiance* of the *Day*, got all the *Fiddles* in Town, to *Glory* in your *Debauch*, and *Contempt* of the *Paſſion* of *Chriſt*, which the *High-Fliers* were Remembring at *Church*, with *Faſting* and *Prayer.* But the *Turks* and *Jews*, the *Whiggs* and *Diſſenters* make it their *Treating-Day*! Whether can it be more truly ſaid of the *Whigg* or the *Diſſenter*?

Who with more Care keep Holy-Day
The Wrong, than others the Right way.

They'r ſo very like one another, in all theſe things,

That put 'em in a Bag, and Shake 'em,
Your ſelf o'th' ſuddain won'd Miſtake 'em.

(4.)

(4.) But there is another *Difference* very *Observable* 'twixt those that are *For* or *Against* the *Tackers* and *High-Church*. The *Former* are Attended to their *Election* by the *Body* of the Principal *Gentry*, both for *Estates* and *Reputation*. The *Other*, by *Tag*, *Rag*, and *Long-Tayl*, the *Refuse* and *Scum*, the *Beasts* of the *People*. Every body took notice of this, almost in all the *Elections*, especially for the *Counties*. And I believe there are very few *Exceptions* as to the *Boroughs*. I cou'd fill my *Papers* with *Instances* since the *Elections* began, I told thee of a few, *Suffolk*, *Hartford*, *Coventry*, *Exeter*, *Honiton*. And because thou did'st *Sputter* grievously about the last, and put it upon *Mobb*, that Sir *John Elwill* was Affronted, and *Heads* broken, upon his coming there to make Interest for his *Election*, I'll now tell thee how it Proceeded upon the *Election-Day*, which I have in a *Letter* thence dated the 19*th*. last *Month*, from one Present, and concern'd in the *Election*.

Thursday about 8 *in the Morning Sir* JOHN ELWILL *came on Horse back to our Town, accompany'd by about* 200 *Horse of all sorts, but I think there were not six* GENTLEMEN *among them. About half an hour after came in Sir* WALTER YOUNG *accompany'd by several Gentlemen and Farmers of the Neighbouring Country. At nine came in Sir* WILLIAM DRAKE (*who was a* TACKER) *Accompany'd by all the Neighbouring* GENTELMEN *and* CLERGY, *and near a Thousand Horse. He was met at the End of the Borough, by the Voters who were for him. They were led by the Bailiff of the Borough, with ten Constables, who march'd in order, with* LAURELS *in their Hats, and* TACKERS *in Gold Letters. The Poll for Sir* WILLIAM DRAKE was 256 for *Sir* WALTER YOUNG, 236. *for Sir* JOHN ELWILL, 162. *for Capt.* BLAYDON, 164. *Upon which all Sir* JOHN ELWILL's *friends Sneak'd away, not one of them being left to Accompany him to his Quarters.*

And now I will shew a little of their Dealings, and leave you to Judge of their Honesty by their Actions. They brought to be Poll'd several fellows from OATERS, OLSCOMB, BUCKEREL, MONTON, COTLEY, BRANSCOMB, *and other Places, some of whose Faces he Employ'd to make the Return never saw before, with Witnesses to Prove their Boyling of the Pot. And threatn'd him, if he did not take their Votes, to make him Answer for it somewhere else. This was in my Presence. This I Saw and Heard. In short, there was not a* DISSENTER *in the Parish but they brought wit in the Borough; And not one young fellow of* 21 *Years of Age, but they Produc'd for Votes.* 20 *Shillings a Vote was Given, as was Prov'd at the Poll, besides Drink. They Arrested all that was in Debt to any of their Party,* &c.

Thus the Letter. And the like has been their Practice in other Places. Which may be Examin'd in a *Committee* of *Elections*.

Obs. But *Review* has observ'd, That those *Tackers* who have Carry'd their *Elections*, have *met with more than Usual Difficulties*, and Carry'd it by a Less *Majority* than *formerly*.

Country-m. And yet those Few who Lost it, *Poll'd* more, by Considerable *Numbers*, than *formerly*.

Obs. That seems a *Contradiction*.

(5.) *Country-m.* Your *Godly* Deeds can Explain it. By Dividing *Estates* into *Free-holds* of 40*s.* only for the Time of *Election*; And taking *Bonds* of *Resignation*, as you Practise upon the *Clergy*, where you have *Advowsons*. By this means, making *Hundreds* of the Poor Sole *FORSWEAR* themselves. But they who *Scruple* not at *SACRILEGE*, [illegible] *Boggle* at *PERJURY*.

But we may have *Lists Printed* of the [illegible] *Holders* in several *Counties*, where this [illegible] has been most Practis'd; whereby the [illegible] ones will Appear.

And if all these *Free-Holds* be Confirm'd by *Act* of *Parliament*, and the *Sham-Conditions* voided, it will be a Good *Bar* for the Future. Especially if they make the *Qualification* to *Pounds* at least, instead of 40 *Shillings*. And if the *House* of *Commons* throw out all who have come in by such *Votes*; which are Declar'd to be *void* and of *None Effect*, by an *Act* 7th and 8th of K. *William*.

Obs. Ay! If you get a *Church* of *England House* of *Commons*, you'll Reform Matters! Will ye? And look into past *Miscarriages*! I thought you had had enough of that! You have been *Baffl'd* and *Exos'd* in't, till you are become the *Contempt* of the *Nation*. Your *Im eachments* are a *Jest*! I my self, *John Tutchin*, have stood it out *Bluff* against all your *Prosecution*, though the *Jury* found me *Guilty*! How many have you order'd to be *Prosecuted* for *This* and *That*? And has one *Word* been said to any *One* of them? They *Laugh* at you, and *Despise* you in every Company: Don't shew your *Teeth* more, till you can *Bite*.

(6.) The very *Quackers*, like *Rats*, have Quit a Falling *House*. I *Brag* and *Boast* of them in mine of 26 last *Month*, Vol. 4. N. 16. The whole *Body* of them have Appear'd, every where, on *OUR* side, against the *CHURCH*, at these *Elections*. And to shew their *Integrity* beyond the *Corruption* of *Bribes*, they threw out, by their *Votes*, the very *Man* who brought in the *Bill* to make them *Peers*, to have their *Affirmation* Equivalent to the *Oaths* of other *Plebeans*.

Country-m. No other *Return* has the *Church* met with, or can ever *Expect*, for the *Favours* she shews to any of you *Dissenters*, who are her Sworn *Enemies*, by *Principle* and *Inclination*. Though you *Hang* one another, the *Quakers* were serv'd in *New-England*, when any *Sort* of *YOU* have the *Power*, and though the *Quackers* complain'd *Heavily* of *Persecution*, in *YOUR Reign* before the *Restauration*, 1660; and their *Prophets*, particularly *James Naylor*, was then *Bor'd* thro' the *Tongue*, and set in the *Pillory*: yet all these things, and all things possible, cannot alter the *Nature* of the *Beast*. *Dissenters*, of all sorts will ever *Bandy* against the *Church*. As *Herod* and *Pontious Pilate* agreed against their *Master*.

And if the *Church* cannot stand upon her own *Leggs*, and be Supported, under GOD by her true *Sons* who *Love* and *Reverence* her, she will find the help of *Wolggs*, *Dissenters*, and *Occasional Conformists*, what a *Great* Man very *Appositly* Term'd it,

A wooden Legg.

ADVERTISEMENT.

The Letter from *Ipswich* in last *Observator* will be spoke to in my next. In the mean time the *Observator* is desir'd to name his *Nine Baronets* &c. It being to the *Prejudice* to them. And the *Fact* is deny'd by [illegible] Witnesses. As also that there were not 500 *Voters* [illegible] *Poll'd*, as that *Letter* says, for it is still Insisted upon that they were 200 and the *Poll-Books* are Appeal'd to.

Note, The Truth of the Advertisement Concerning S. *H.* [illegible] N. 42 requires, as I'm told, further Confirmation, which shall be done in my next, for Justice does to S. *H.*

OLD ENGLAND. To be Sold in *London* and *Westminster*. *The DISSENTERS Sayings. By Sir Roger L'Estrange*. printed and Sold by *Char. Brome* at the *Gun* the West End of St. *Paul's*.

Mercurius Rusticus. London Printed for *Richard Gi* Bookseller in *Cambridge*.